The Last will of Thomas Pilkington of Wheelton died 28 February 1824.

Lancashire Records Office. Bow Lane, Preston. Lancashire. England. Chester Wills. Pilkington, Thomas, Wheelton, husbandman. W Apr 1824. Will made 19 October 1823 whilst his daughter Ann cared for him.

In the name of God Amen, I Thomas Pilkington of Wheelton in the county of Lancaster, husbandman being advanced in years and weak and infirm in body, but of sound and disposing mind memory and understanding (Praised be almighty God for the same) Do for the settling of my temporal affairs make publish and declare this to be my last will and testament in manner and form following this is to say, first I order and direct that all my just debts funeral expenses the charge of probate hereof and all other incident charges and expenses paid and discharged out of my personal estate by my executors herein - after named, and I give and bequeath to Daniel Pilkington my son the sum of one shilling to be paid to him by my executor and executes in one month next after my decease he having had from me considerable sums of money more than I have for any of my other children, and I also give to Ann my daughter for her care and trouble she had had , with me living with me during the remainder of my life the sum of twenty pounds and also one pair of Looms, and a bed and Bedding & Dresser over and above her share with my other children and I further order and direct that the remainder of my household furniture be equally divided among my three daughters, Viz Jane Sim Margaret Pilkington and Ann Pilkington - and all the residue and remainder of my personal estate and effects of what kind or nature whatsoever the same maybe whether money at interest or otherwise to be divided equally among these my children namely - Adam Pilkington my son, Samuel Pilkington my son Thomas Pilkington, my son Euan (Possibly Evan) Pilkington my son William Pilkington my son, Jane Sim my daughter, Margaret Pilkington my daughter, and Ann Pilkington my daughter, share and share alike, - Subject nevertheless as to my son Samuel Pilkington to deduct out of his share seven pounds ten shillings - also my son Thomas Pilkington to deduct out of his share the sum of five pounds - and also as to my William Pilkington to deduct out of his share the sum of eight pounds fourteen shillings - and also my daughter Jane Sim to deduct out of her share the sum of three pounds - There my said children having received these sums from me and the aforesaid sums deducted out of their respective shares as before stated and added to and divided as before directed - And I do hereby nominate constitute and appoint John Whittle of Longworth to be executor - Jane Sim and Ann Pilkington to be executrix jointly of this my last will and testament hoping they will faithfully perform the same as my trust is in them reposed and that they shall retain all their reasonable costs charges damages and expenses out of my effects and lastly I do hereby revoke all former wills by me made and declare this to be my last will and testament in witness thereof I the said Thomas Pilkington have here unto set my hand and seal the nineteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty three. (19 Oct 1823)

Signed and sealed published and declared by the said Thomas Pilkington as and for his last will and testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his sight and in the presence of each other have subscribed our names as witnessed thereto. (A standard lawyers seal is attached) The will is signed in a shaky hand but fully legible, the main body of the will is in another persons hand. Thomas Pilkington was educated. His signature indicates that he was of very old age. The witnesses are Brian Pitfield and Ralph Marsden. The 2nd April 1824 John Whittle executor in will named was sworn in common form (However being reserved unto Jane Sim and Ann Pilkington executrixes in this will also named to take upon them the executor thereafter they shall lawfully request the same) The father made executor that the personal estate effects of the said at the time of his death which with effects were under the value of £100.

The testator died 28th Feb. 1824. Probate dated 2nd April 1824. JSade. Surrogate

The Rivington Unitarian Chapel Grave Site

Thomas Pilkington above is interred at Rivington Unitarian Chapel and the grave is located nearest the footpath on the right, second row from the main gate and is the first grave near the footpath, the next grave is that of his son Samuel, then follows the graves of his other sons and descendants. The grave of Jane Sim is located to the left side of the graveyard opposite that of Thomas under the farm date stone reading B. 17WMI13 and A. TAR 1695. The graves of Isaac and Ann Pilkington are the foot of the grave of Robert Andrews on the right of the Chapel entrance. The grave of Ann is under the farm date stone marked I.R 1698 and I. A 1732. The grave of Abel, Daniel and Susanna are visible to the left of this photo of the Chapel Yard. There are three grave slabs of the family located to the right of the entrance. One of the largest monuments in the cemetery is that of the Pilkington and Calderbanks monument located nearby the grave of the Crompton family of Rivington Hall. A grave plan is kept within the family and there are further records in at Lancashire Records Office, Bow Lane, Preston, Lancashire, England Accession 9809 file ref. DDX 2522 and Accession 9886 file ref. DDX 2522. Three family charts have been produced that outline the details of three of the brothers, Samuel Pilkington, Thomas Pilkington and William Pilkington with details of local history. Included with these charts are notes on the local history of the location. A discovery after the above three charts has been family line from Daniel Pilkington. His descendants are the Jolly Family. The details of the descendants from Daniel came about after a discovery of a maintenance document at the national archives, ref QSP/2837/89 1824 13 Jul.adobe acrobat viewer for to view the files.